



**HNS# 75-2013**

## **MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Sponsors

**FROM:** Mary Szafranski, Associate Superintendent  
Arizona Department of Education, Health and Nutrition Services

Melissa Conner, Director  
Arizona Department of Education, Child and Adult Care Food Program/  
Summer Food Service Program

**DATE:** December 6, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Summer Food Service Program 2014

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*Original Signed*

The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the meals you serve to children during the school year. These nutritious meals provide children with the foundation for learning and health, providing key nutrients for growth and academic achievement.

As you are aware, hunger does not take a vacation during the summer. When summer vacation begins, many children in your area lose access to healthy meals. These same children are less likely to have access to affordable, fun summer activities that keep their minds sharp and their bodies active. As a result, many low-income kids experience not only the risk of being hungry in the summer, but also the potential for falling behind academically, and paradoxically, gaining weight. Summer meals help ensure that children remain healthy, happy and continue to develop during the vulnerable summer months.

To help combat summer hunger, ADE is encouraging you to participate in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Enclosed you will find materials that explain SFSP, explain how to qualify and explain how to participate. For more information, please visit the SFSP website at [www.azsummerfood@azed.gov](http://www.azsummerfood@azed.gov) or give us a call at 602-542-8700 and ask for the Specialist of the Day. The summer food team is waiting to assist you.



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